

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 211225Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAko

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9005

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E O 11652 N A

TAGS: OEXC, ML (JEROME C. FORD)

SUBJ: FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 103211, BAMAko 1199

1. EMBASSY HAD NO RPT NO INTENTION OF GIVING CU IMPRESSION THERE IS NO REAL INTEREST IN FACILITATING FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR FORD'S STAY IN MALI. TO THE CONTRARY, WE HAD HOPED TO GIVE A REALISTIC PICTURE OF WHAT ACTUAL CONDITIONS ARE. EMBASSY HAD MENTIONED IN EARLIER COMMUNICATIONS THAT SCHOOL COULD NOT RPT NOT PROVIDE EUROPEAN STYLE HOUSING. WHAT LITTLE HOUSING SCHOOL CAN SQUEEZE OUT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE GOES FIRST TO MALIANS AND THERE IS A LONG WAITING LIST. FORD WILL NOT BE FIRST FULBRIGHTER TO SERVE IN MALI. CAROL COX WAS HERE IN 1970-71 ACADEMIC YEAR AS TEACHER AT ECOLE NORMALE SUPERIEURE. MISS COX WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING HER OWN HOUSING AND PAYING ALL UTILITY BILLS. EMBASSY HELPED HER FIND AND FURNISH HOUSE

JUST AS WE INTEND TO DO FOR FORD. WE UNDERSTAND FROM EMBASSY OLD-TIMERS THAT SAME APPLIED TO FULBRIGHTERS JOHN TUCKER TAYLOR AND FRANK EVANS IN 1969-70.

2. EMBASSY/USIS CAN PROVIDE FOLLOWING BASIC FURNISHINGS ON A LOAN BASIS TO FORD: BEDS, REFRIGERATOR, STOVE, AIR CONDITIONERS, BASIC LIVING-DINING FURNISHINGS, RUGS, LAMPS, TRANSFORMERS, ETC. FLATWARE, COOKING UTENSILS AND LINEN ARE NOT AVAILABLE. ABOVE FURNISHINGS, WHILE NOT ALL NEW, ARE WORKABLE AND WHEN DECORATED WITH TASTE ARE ON A PAR WITH EMBASSY STAFF FURNISHINGS. FORD CAN EXPECT RECEIVE NORMAL EMBASSY ADMIN SERVICES SUCH AS ACCOMMODATION EXCHANGE, HEALTH SERVICES, COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES, TRAVEL AND CUSTOMS

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CLEARANCE ASSISTANCE. USIS CAN PROVIDE REASONABLE AMOUNT OF

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE AND OFFICE SPACE WHEN NEEDED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SCHOOL ATTEMPTS TO SUPPLY FACULTY WITH SECRETARIAL HELP AND REPRODUCING FACILITIES BUT THIS SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED ON.

3. RE HOUSING, EMBASSY HAS NOTHING IT CAN PROVIDE FORD AND AS STATED ABOVE WE CAN NOT RPT NOT COUNT ON NEAR BROKE GOM WHICH IS USING ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR DROUGHT RELIEF. WE URGE DEPT PROVIDE FORD WITH HOUSING AND UTILITIES ALLOWANCE. EMBASSY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT ASSIST FORD IN FINDING SUITABLE QUARTERS AND IN FURNISHING THEM. FOR TWO-BEDROOM, AIR CONDITIONED EUROPEAN STYLE VILLA OR APARTMENT, RENT AND UTILITIES CAN BE EXPECTED TO RUN BETWEEN \$350 AND \$400 MONTHLY.

4. EMBASSY AGREES WITH DEPT THAT FORD SHOULD HAVE FULL UNDERSTANDING SUPPORT HE CAN EXPECT RECEIVE AND WE HOPE THIS ANSWERS ALL QUESTIONS. WE HAVE NEVER SAID WORKING IN BAMAKO WOULD BE A PICNIC. AS EMBASSY NOTED IN ITS ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR PROFESSOR (BAMAKO 0307 OF FEBRUARY 1, 1973), THAT IN ADDITION TO PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS "CANDIDATE SHOULD EXHIBIT HIGH DEGREE ENTHUSIASM FOR AFRICA AND POSSESS ABILITY TO COPE WITH DAY-TO-DAY ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC PROBLEMS WHICH ARE GENERALLY UNIQUE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES...EMPATHY, FLEXIBILITY FOR GIVE AND TAKE...VERY IMPORTANT." FORD STRIKES US AS THAT KIND OF MAN AND WE LOOK FORWARD HIS FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT. EMBASSY WILL DO EVERYTHING WITHIN REASONS ASSURE HE AND MRS FORD OF PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY REWARDING EXPERIENCE IN MALI.
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